

(From the North British Daily Mail.)
THE other night, in answer to the request of the Council of United Trades of Glasgow, Sheriff Alison delivered a lecture on "Political Economy," in the City Hall, as introductory to the formation of classes for mutual information in the science of Political Economy amongst working men, about to be established under the auspices of the United Trades. The hall (which accommodates 6000 people) was nearly filled, chiefly by working men, who showed their interest in the subject, by their strict attention and high appreciation of the lecture.

workmen, can prevent the operation of this fixed law. (Applause.) While I speak thus strongly in regard to the relations of supply and demand as regulating the wages of labour, you are to suppose on this account that I go along with what is said by persons who argue on this subject, that this mode of necessity exclude any combination to keep up the wages of labour in certain circumstances. The principle I wish to impress upon you, and which I hope may be impressed on the community, is this, that the right to combine to affect the wages of labour—to raise them when they can be raised in conformity with the laws of nature, and to prevent them falling too low—is, I regret to say, in general an evil; but anything is an evil which may have a tendency to throw large bodies of men for a time out of employment, and produce a feeling of antagonism between one class and another. But it is an evil unavoidable in the state of society in which we live, and which, evil though it may be necessary to prevent the domination of capital over the wages of labour, and the absorption of all power to the master. (Applause.) Combinations—and you will observe when I speak of combinations, that I do not mean, as has existed in now forgotten days—combinations are necessary to mark out the proportion between capital and industry; I mean combinations carefully and religiously abstaining from violence or intimidation of any kind. The moment a combination assumes an opposite character, it becomes not only illegal, but what is greatly worse—it becomes a direct violation of the laws of nature—will be necessary independent of all law—and will bring upon itself condign punishment—and that, not by the hand of man, but by the hands of God. (Applause.)

I say, then, that I support combinations, and strikes even, when they are in conformity with the intention of nature, and when they are intended to make the wages of labour to bear a fair proportion to the profits of capital—(hear, hear)—and men can do that without a contradiction of the principles of competition or the principles of produce, by letting them be regulated by supply and demand, which they are. And this, I think, is a very important remark—they are the means or the modes by which the principles of competition, and that law of nature operate in these particular cases. It is in vain to tell me that strikes and combinations are violations of the principle of supply and demand, which is the great rule of all competition, and, the rule of all earthly things. I say the combinations, when they are perfectly peaceable, when they are not attended by any violence, but only by mere abstinence from labour, is quite a legitimate mode in which the principles of combination on the part of the workman meet the principles of competition and power on the part of the employers. (Hear, hear.) You must all know the tendency of the social world around us. There is no reason to dread the territorial aristocracy; there is no reason to dread the power of the Crown; there is no reason to dread a military despotism—the only real power we have to apprehend in this country is the power of money. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) It is the power of capital which enables the capitalist to command to a certain degree not only the actions of men, but gives him also what is more alarming, the power of the most powerful engine—the Press, and through that means of moulding public opinion, and moulding too often in a way highly dangerous to the people. (Cheers.) The mode by which it is intended by nature—I mean by nature—that this power of capital, which is every day growing among us, and which is a great power in the civilised world, is to be counteracted is the power of combination, because it is quite evident that if there is no power of combination—if the capitalist, whose wealth is constantly increasing, and always going more and more into fewer hands—if it comes to this that the whole wealth of the country is accumulated by a few hundreds or thousands of men, leaving all the labour of the country destitute of work, destitute of money, destitute of any resources to maintain strength—leaving in this state 30,000, 40,000 or 40,000,000 having no quality of mind to contest—the inevitable result would be that the wages of labour would be brought down to the lowest state consistent with maintenance and human strength; and the free labourers of free Britain rendered no better than the slave-born serfs of Russia. (Loud cheers.) Now, gentlemen, I perfectly see the necessity and expediency of the principles of combination to resist the accumulative and aggressive power of capital; and I consider that in admitting this I am not in the slightest degree deviating from the principles of political economy, for it is by these means that we can hope to produce that proper balance which we all must desire to see established between the wages of labour and the profits of capital. It is admitted, then, that the principle of combination to raise the wages of labour, to raise them in some circumstances and to prevent them being lowered in others, is right, and is a check to the accumulation of capital. But here a question arises, and it is one of the utmost importance. What is the limit to which your efforts should be directed? Where is the limit you should impose on yourselves, when attempting to prevent the falling of wages, and what is the fair and equitable division that ought to subsist between yourselves and your employers in the distribution of the profits of labour? That is the great point. It is agreed on all sides that combinations are not illegal; that I have said already—but the natural mode in which the principles of competition come to operate between master and servant; but then it becomes of vast importance that the masters on the one hand, and the workmen on the other, should be perfectly aware of the law of nature that is operating on the subject, and that they should not by any effort of theirs try to subvert or thwart the importance of that law, for if they do, they will only end in hopeless undertakings certain to involve them and all concerned in ruin. Now, gentlemen, the illustration I will give of this observation will explain to you how it happens that so great diversity of opinion exists on this point in reference to the welfare of the working-classes of society. You will see it in the words of that great part of the public press, and it is a constant maintained by many of the public generally, that strikes are always unfortunate. I have just read in the *Morning Post* of yesterday an important article on strikes—the report of the Inspectors of Factories—and they express their astonishment at the way in which the working-classes let themselves be deluded by their leaders, and they state that strikes are almost always unfortunate; and that the greater part of the distress existing among the working-classes is owing to the unhappy strikes in which they have been led on in a way that appears to the reporters to be inconceivable. Now, gentlemen, that is the opinion of a large part of the community, and it is vain for you to shut your eyes to the fact that the opinion is general. You see it constantly rung in the press that all strikes are unfortunate, and that it is one of the phenomena which cannot

be explained, why it is that workmen, who know that they always must prove disastrous, so often engage in them. Now, men in your situation are of a totally different opinion, and you entertain that opinion, I must say, on very sufficient grounds. (Hear, hear, and loud cheers.) You know, and I have often heard it expressed in conversation with many of your friends, that a vast number of strikes are perfectly successful—(hear, hear)—very often extremely successful, and in fact I have heard it from those men who appear to be well acquainted with the matter, that the material advantages that have been derived during the last half-century have been obtained through the agency of strikes, and in no other way. (Loud cheers.) There is an opposite opinion in society; and, as happens in most cases, there is a great deal of truth on both sides. I will explain how it happens that both are in the right, and both, to a certain extent, are in the wrong. It is quite true, as you know, and as I have often heard your leaders express with a clearness and an ability which I have always admired, that a great many strikes which do not attract public attention are successful; but it is equally true what employers, capitalists, and part of the Press say, that all the strikes which have been heard of—all strikes that attract public attention—have terminated disastrously, the workmen, after five or six months' struggle, being obliged to take the wages offered at first; or, if there is any advance, it is swallowed up in the debt that has in the meantime been incurred. This is perfectly true, in proof of which I wish to remind you of the strike of 1842, and of that of 1857, besides many others in my own recollection; and though I am happy to say that latterly there has been no violence, they proved unfortunate—most unfortunate—speculations for the working classes. What is the explanation of this matter? Is it possible to distinguish the causes? How does it happen that some are successful, and that many of the great ones which attract public attention terminate in the course of time in a manner disastrous to the labourer? I will explain in one moment how this happens, and if you will attend to my explanation you will see how to avoid in future strikes that will prove disastrous. Now, gentlemen, strikes terminate prosperous when the master under circumstances when nature intends that wages should rise; and nature intends that wages shall rise when the price of the article which is produced, as compared with the wages of the labourer, and the price of the raw material, is rising. Strikes, in these circumstances, are sure to be successful without any suffering, and for this plain reason, that if the master can make a profit off his workmen you may rely that he will not let them stand idle. Therefore, if the price of your produce is rising as compared with the price of the raw material, you then are entitled to go to the master and say, "We require a fair proportion of the profits of our working: the prices are rising to you, they have not risen to us; we insist on a fair communication on your part to us of the benefits you are enjoying." When you say that you are perfectly right, and will gain your object without striking or alienation, because the master cannot resist—at least he will not resist in one case out of twenty, if you adopt this principle. But if you take up a certain fixed line, and bid him to give you more, and say, "We insist that we shall not work unless we get certain wages, for we are not on less than present prices," no result can accrue but disaster. Gentlemen, never strike when the profits are such that the masters' profits are falling. You must then submit to loss. I perfectly admit that it is very painful to do it—I know that it is one of the great evils of society, the alternation of wages from high to low and from low to high, and I wish to Heaven that it were in the power of the law or of combination of men to prevent it. But it is impossible: any such attempt is perfectly certain to be unsuccessful, and will involve the persons engaged in it in hopeless ruin. Therefore, gentlemen, you see that there is a line to be drawn, within which combination is useful, and beyond which it is perfectly unavailing. Then there is another matter. I allude to the high rate of interest, which I consider to be of the very last importance in this question. I know that the question of currency is one that is distasteful to most people, and which they do not understand; but I can only say if a person understands the question of questions between master and servant, and does not comprehend that subject, he will never succeed. It is one of the most material elements in the question. Discount was, a few months ago, at 21 per cent., but it is now 8 per cent., and it is thought will be, before long, at 10 per cent. Now, the rising of discount to 8 or 10 per cent. must extinguish the whole profit of capital. From the income-tax returns, published by Government, I see that the returns for Scotland in schedule D—trades and professions—amounted in 1856, in round numbers, to £13,000,000, but since that time they have come down to £8,000,000. Now, what had happened in the interim? I will tell you. There was a monetary crisis in 1857. We knew something of that crisis here. Discount was raised to 10 per cent.—the Western Bank failed, and great distress took place. Interest in 1856 rose to 6 per cent.; in 1857 to 8 per cent.; and in the spring of 1858 it was 10 per cent. Well, what was the effect of that? It is simply this, that the price paid for money was such as to completely extinguish all profits. Well, in the spring of 1858, with interest at 10 per cent., the miners and colliers of Lanarkshire, Stirlingshire, and Ayrshire, struck for a rise of wages, and notwithstanding that I recommended them not to do so, when waited on by a deputation of their number, they persisted, and lost £600,000 in labour. The gold at present in the Bank of England only amounts to £11,000,000, instead of, as it should be, £16,000,000, and that shows the great drain that is at present taking place to America. What is the cause of that drain? There are two causes operating. In the first place, America is preparing to fight, and the principle of hoarding is going on to a great extent there. The people there are preparing for war, and turning their effects into gold, and therefore it is that there is a great demand for gold from this country. Within three weeks £30,000,000 of the American exports have been paid for by the Government, and partly for the Government. The result is, that our gold is just drained from our hands in consequence of this infernal squabble in that country—you in this country are punished not for any fault of your own, but because one-half of America is beginning to fight the other half. (Laughter and cheers.) The monetary crises we have had for some years past were from somewhat the same cause, such as the Russian war, and the Italian war, so that now we have come to this point, that whatever folly exists in any other part of the world we must suffer for it. If they mutiny in India, or if a war between China and Europe takes place, or if the Germans begin to fight with the Italians, or if the Austrians commence fighting with the Italians, or if the Americans begin to quarrel and fight among themselves,

out goes English guineas, and up goes the rate of interest in this country. There is an old Greek adage which is quite applicable to it—is—“*Quicquid delirant reges plectantur achiui*”—and which I may interpret, that “Whatever madness the King shoves, the Greeks are punished for it;” and so I would say that what madness the kings of this earth do the people of this country are punished for it. (Hear, hear.) Now if I could impress upon this country, through you, the enormity of the danger which is perpetually hanging over our heads by gold leaving this country, causing the rate of interest to go up, and necessarily the wages of workmen going down, a thing which will again occur, I would confer the greatest benefit upon my fellow-countrymen. We had a monetary crisis in 1856, and another dreadful one in 1867, and now in 1868 there is one which threatens to be as bad as any other, and from no fault of the English people. I would beg to submit to you that there is a perfectly simple remedy to this great evil, and which would prevent it if the country took it up and forced it upon the Government by the force of reason and of argument by influential parties, but remember it will require no small effort, the moneyed power in London are extreme of strong, and know very well that the result of raising the interest to 10 per cent. is to recruit their fortunes very considerably. The simple remedy that I would propose, and which would be perfectly effective, but which will not be applied without a great and simultaneous movement on the part of the working and industrious classes, is this: that the first place let it be passed into law, that the notes of £100,000 of England which are not convertible into gold, and which were fixed in 1819 at £14,000,000, should be raised to £20,000,000. That would give another £6,000,000 of money to trade upon. It must be remembered that the above sum was fixed at a time when the population was under 20,000,000, when our exports were under £60,000,000, and the imports still less; and that it has frequently been maintained at that when our population has reached 28,000,000, the exports £145,000,000, and the imports £158,000,000. Now, it is quite rare that there is no proportion between them, and that the small proportion of inconvertible notes is kept up because it brings back these commercial distresses, and is profitable to the moneyed classes. My next remedy will be—Let it be passed into a law that for every £100,000 of gold taken out of the Bank of England’s coffers £100,000,000 sterling that £100,000 in convertible notes shall be issued on the security of Government, to preserve the credit of the country, to permit the rate of interest to remain as it was, and not cause your wages to be lowered while nations fought one another (cheers.) That being done, we might see the whole guineas drawn out of the Bank of England to enable the Americans to fight each other, or the Italians and Germans to fight together, and yet not suffer thereby; but in order to prevent these notes being issued in too large quantities, it would be necessary to see that, for every 100,000 guineas which came back, 100,000 of them be drawn back. That would be a remedy against the whole evils complained of, and thus the catastrophe of monetary crises be prevented. (Hear, hear.) In 1809, 1810, and 1811, there were no monetary crises, although the Russians were fighting, and a great struggle was going on in the Peninsula between the Austrians and the French. There was no question about the guineas going out then, for the notes were issued as the guineas were drawn off; and then when the time for their return came, the notes were withdrawn. (Hear, hear.) In what I have said, I have no combination on the part of workmen and masters. I wish to guard myself from it being thought that I am in favour of combination being employed for the legitimate and fair balance between the wages of the workmen and the profits of the capitalist—(cheers)—for if it be used for any other purpose it is unjust; I don’t say whether it is legal or illegal, but it is unjust, and sure to produce an ulcerated and painful feeling between both parties, and will in the end be disadvantageous to all. Now, I will give you one or two cases in which a combination of masters or workmen might take place, and you will see how it would act. Supposing a combination of masters were entered into in a period of scarcity, when workmen and their families were almost starving, and they said—“We will raise our wages, and the workmen said—“If you don’t take these wages, you may go out and scrape up an existence where you can.” I say that would be a heartless abuse of combination, and as such it would lead to disastrous consequences. Again, suppose masters to say to their workmen, “We have got certain managers to employ, and we will give you notice to leave unless you receive them in place of those over whom we have dismissed.” I don’t say that would be illegal or legal—I never do so until both sides are brought before me—but I say it would be unjust and contrary to the law of nature and the intention of nature, and would inevitably lead to distressing consequences both to workmen and masters, and particularly to the latter. In like manner, to take advantage of the master who has entered into a combination, and your uneducated feelings, and that he was laid under heavy liabilities to complete a certain work in a given time—well this is sometimes done, caused you to go to him and say, “We will all strike if you don’t raise our wages.” I say that would be a deviation from the law of nature, and would turn the power of combination to an unjust end, and which would recoil upon the heads of men who would make use of it in that way. (Cheers.) We have had a great undertaking in this part of the country, and which was yesterday brought to a noble conclusion. The Messrs. Napier were bound down to forfeit £1000 a day if they exceeded the period for the execution of the work, and many thousands of pounds if the vessel was not properly launched. Now they had 3000 men employed at the Black Prince, and if these men had combined to strike it would have been quite unjustifiable, and an improper use of combination, and an improper use of the power which had been mainly used to undertake the vessel, the part of the masters, and would have resulted in a loss of that kindly and good feeling which had so long existed between them, and the workmen would have suffered in the end. (Cheers.) In the name of Messrs. Napier, as this is the first time I have had the pleasure of meeting you since the event of yesterday, I beg to congratulate you all—and many of you no doubt were engaged in the completion of the huge vessel—on our having been able in the Clyde to produce a body of workmen and great capitalists as to turn out such a noble ship, whose launch was so successful. (Cheers.) I am glad to say that, when I remember how the Great Eastern grounded, and how the Warrior got into the Thames with so much trouble, with all the appliances of London, while the Black Prince slipped down at once from her cradle, carrying everything before her with an irresistible force. (Cheers.) I hope that is the precursor of her career in the wars, and that she

will ever cleave her way amongst all obstacles. (Cheers.) There is a subject connected with this in some degree, and which I may allude to—Co-operative Societies. It is perfectly natural that the working classes should consider this an extremely interesting subject. They say that employers make great fortunes, live in a princely style, and they think very naturally that if means could be devised directly to bring a large body of capital into union with the profits of labour, that the men could divide these as well as the master. Now, certainly co-operation holds out a very alluring prospect, and if it could possibly be carried out, it would be a capital thing; but I have great doubts that it is practicable, because I find that it has never been successful to any great extent. I know it has been worked upon to some extent in some parts of the Continent and in England, but I have never found that it has struck its roots independent of the fostering care and attention of some capitalist. The great impediment is the impossibility of a large body of men raising a capital adequate to carrying on the business to a large enough extent. If they can raise capital like a great joint stock company, they can go on very well, but there is no prospect of their having done so yet. Suppose a thousand people could each put in £100 of capital, they might go on as prosperously as any single capitalist; but they will find that unless they have a capital raised and realised that they will not get credit. A multitude of men will not get credit from a bank: they like a few rich men as securities, and, therefore, I doubt whether a Co-operative Society will do. I am in favour of the principle of co-operation if it is based upon the savings of workmen; and I would advise you to set your face in the savings bank before you set your face to the encouragement of any great undertaking of co-operation, for they will not expect to succeed until they have a solid capital to stand upon. I don't say this to discourage you from co-operation; but I say it because I am of opinion that the great fountain of it must be laid in the provident habits of individuals, and that when a considerable capital has been collected, then they may be encouraged to go on with a prospect of success. (Cheers.) It must never be forgotten that the capitalist is the man who breaks the waves of misfortune and prevents them rolling over the great community, for the capitalist ever suffers first. He has to pay eight and ten per cent. He suffers first from the stagnation of the American market, while the workman suffers afterwards, and often very severely. Now, in co-operation the workman would suffer in losing his capital as well as his wages when a crisis occurred. They who are engaged in such co-operative societies must meet the dangers of the capitalist; and first and foremost of these is the monetary crisis, which will come on without any fault on your part, and when you may find the savings of a whole lifetime departing by the sea. An interest of eight or ten per cent. Therefore, I wish any of you to rush into co-operation without any awareness of the dangers that threaten it, in order that you may be prepared by a solid capital, so that when these dangers arise you may not be overwhelmed. There is only one other thing I would like to call your attention to, and that is two evil effects of strikes, which must be taken as some set-off against their advantages. One of these was the great impulse which a strike always gave to the introduction of machinery. You will find, if you go back to every strike, that it has always led to an introduction of more machinery. The self-acting mules were the direct consequences of the cotton spinners' strike of 1837. Now, that will always be the case. A strike always sharpens the wits of engineers and of master capitalists, causing them to turn their attention where they can substitute machinery for human labour. No doubt the increase of machinery will subvert the imports and exports, but it is not equally clear that it will be an advantage to the working classes. I would rather see a dozen men working than a machine doing their work. It is a very serious matter to see labour thus supplanted, and every strike tends towards that. Another effect of strikes is the introduction of more female workers. What an immense proportion of women were at work at the last census—no fewer than 50,000 single women were earning their bread by their needle or in factories: and I am sure that the number will be 80,000 at the next census. Now, it is a very serious matter this turning of male labour into women's employment. I don't think that women should labour apart from their families. (Cheers.) Let them labour in their own houses: let them assist their husbands, and train up their children, for it is a bad state of society when women work apart from their households, and when they do not acquire habits, or the powers requisite, to make them good mothers of children. I am sure that in Glasgow there are no fewer than 50,000 young industrious women who cannot daren a stocking, make a dish of porridge, nor mend a shirt—they even cannot make their own dresses—they can only do one thing. I deprecate that as an evil of the present generation, and it is awfully fatal to the generation which is to succeed. Now, you will hardly believe that the Registrar-General of England has reported that winter as the disquietude in Coventry was in the winter, in consequence of the combined effect of change of fashion, the new French tariff, and the bad news from America, which caused 40,000 people to be in utter destitution, which was only relieved by the simultaneous effort of a whole nation—still the rate of mortality was greatly less during that period of suffering than in a time of the highest prosperity in that town. Now, this is the cause of that. The Registrar-General tells us that the greatest increase occurred in children under five years of age, which was caused by their mothers being drawn from work, and they were compelled to give more time and attention to their children. (Cheers.) There are about 12,000 or 13,000 deaths every year in Glasgow. Of these, above 6000 are children under five years of age, and of these 6000, 4000 are children under one year. It is no wonder that this number of innocents should die,—though I cannot blame the mothers. It is the result of a vicious state of society, sending out women to earn their bread by their own hands. And when married women have to do this, what a terrible mortality must arise. If the population of Glasgow was not supported by immigration from other parts of the country, it would dwindle away and soon become extinct. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the interests of the employer and the employed, the masters should act towards their workmen as they would wish to be done by were they in their workmen's position, and the workmen should behave to masters as they should wish them to do were the masters in the position of workmen. Were this principle acted upon, nothing but mutual good feeling would be the result. The results of experience and the dictates of philosophy bring us down to the principle of "doing as we would be done by." The learned Shillibear sat amidst loud and prolonged applause.

(From the Times' Correspondent)

Yokohama, February 5.

APRILS in Japan are in a most critical state at the present moment. On the 1st of January the foreign Ministers were informed by the Japanese Government that there were some 500 or 600 Zoonines, or disbanded retainers of princes, in the neighbouring districts who were meditating a general massacre of the foreigners at Yokohama, the burning and pillaging of all their property, the murder of the consuls at Kanagawa, and the total destruction of the various legations at Yeddo, with their inmates.

The Ministers therefore proposed that all the officers of the legations should take refuge in the Tyeosen's Castle, and that the consuls at Kanagawa should go over to Yokohama, where they would all be protected. This proposition was *refused in toto*. In consequence of this refusal, and for our protection, they filled the legation grounds with 200 or 300 Yokozines (two-armed officers), in the service of two Daimeios. Two brass field-pieces were placed in the premises, and a very vigilant watch kept; patrolmen about the grounds day and night, armed with spears, pikes, and loaded muskets. A watchword was given and changed daily. It was rather amusing to see our protection-keeper-like-birds hedge the hedges and one or two little black-and-white neighbourhood for Zoonines. Revolvers became with us cherished *sacra-sancta*—we had them at hand day and night, and practised occasionally for the purpose of acquiring a steady aim. The Zoonines were attacked every moment, and, as experience was gained, that not the slightest dependence can be placed on the so-called looking defenders, we prepared for the worst, fully armed and equipped. It was necessary for our lives' dearth. And yet how did all this end! On the evening of the 10th of January, while some of us were gaily chatting over a comfortable fire—it was a winter night—we were astonished by intelligence from the Prussian Legation that its secretary, Mr. Heuken, had been attacked in the public streets and dangerously wounded, and by a request for me to come immediately to his assistance. He was riding home from the Prussian Legation (about half an hour's ride) at 9 o'clock in the evening, accompanied by three Yokozines on horseback, and when perhaps a quarter of a mile from the American Legation he was, in a narrow streetway, surrounded by a crowd of armed ruffians, who from both sides of the street, with ferocious howl, rushed upon him, and having extinguished the lanterns the Yokozines were carrying, and poor Heuken in the absence of his attendants, was left back. He was, unfortunately, unarmed, so could not defend himself. It appears that he rode on for 200 yards, quite unconscious of his wound, when he suddenly fell, but to his great surprise he was hurt; they, however, took to flight, his attendants assisting him to dismount. He lay in the street for nearly half an hour, when assistance came, the Yokozines having given the alarm. They then carried him to his home, the British Legation, and brought him on a shutter. The Prussian Legation being nearer than ours, the doctor attached to it was able to render the poor fellow assistance before me. On my arrival I found him lying on a sofa, with his head bleeding, which was about the extent of his wounds, extending from a little above the navel to the right hip, and so deep that a portion of the intestines was out. His clothes were cut as neatly as if it had been done by a hair-cutting machine. His wounds were slight. Having ascertained the nature and extent of the injury, I felt that the unfortunate man must die. I was convinced that no power on earth could save him, and that he would be mortal, and before medical aid could reach him he would be dead.

Yet we did all that our professional knowledge enabled us to do. He lingered on until midnight, enabled us almost to the last. I cannot describe to you how I felt, but to him I gave my hand, and even saw the poor victim's dying face as fresh as a flower. If that dreadful night had only just passed away, I could easily conceive what a depressing effect the case would have produced on the few *day-faced* residents in Japan, who are so easily shocked. After Heuken's death we buried him by the side of the linguist of our legation, who was murdered last year at our very gate. The whole of the diplomatic corps, the American, British, French, and Prussian, and Dutch naval officers, all in full uniform, attended to render the last honours to the murdered man. On the morning of the funeral, the American Minister, Mr. Schuch, through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, that if we persisted in attending the funeral, we should probably be attacked and murdered; they therefore requested us not to go. The American Minister promptly replied, that if a husband or a father were to be murdered, he would not West would not rest until just vengeance had been taken upon them for their perfidy and cruelty. We went, of course; had a guard of Prussian and Dutch Cavalry, and a band of the former playing funeral marches, while the procession was proceeding. We were all, up to the teeth, and certainly did not appear like men who were assisting at a solemn and peaceful ceremony. Such a display of arms and military music, I think, could have no conception of. The whole line of our march to the cemetery was unprotected. No provision was made by the Japanese Government for our safety, and, of course, and this, after the warning given to the Ministers the morning, does not do to my mind, very strange.

After this murder, after the repeated warnings of danger given by the Ministers by the Japanese Government, and after the repeated assurances of the Japanese Government, the means adopted for our security, the foreign Ministers, with the exception of the one who ought to have been or rather was most concerned in it, the American Minister, determined to leave Yeddo, and to reside at Yokohama, leaving the Japanese Government to take such measures as they thought fit.

Matters could be satisfactorily settled. Her Majesty's ship Encounter brought us down to Yeddo, about eighteen miles from Yeddo on Saturday afternoon, and we were lodged in the Japanese quarters at what was formerly the Yokohama Hotel, but now Her Britannic Majesty's Legation. A guard of a dozen marines had been placed on the premises. The Japanese Minister, rid of those Yokozines, who are not of the slightest use to him, and of the danger they do remarkably well for clearing the road of little uphills and old women, but in no single instance have they ever defended a foreigner when assaulted; to say that they are not of the slightest use to him is an overstatement. The French *Chargé d'Affaires* came down with us. The Dutch Consul was great. Left several days before us in a Dutch war-bug. The American Minister, who was the last to leave, and in his private conduct, he will impress upon his own belief that the murder of his secretary was an accident.

DEATH OF CENTENARIAN.—The death of John Hill, who was believed to have been the oldest man in England, he having reached his 104th year, took place at Rochester, on Sunday last. The deceased was born in the year 1746, and was 17 years of age during the early part of his life was employed in agricultural pursuits. He was always remarkable for being a man of very abstemious habits, and also an early riser, both of which probably, contributed to his longevity. Until within the last few months Hill was in the habit of taking his daily walks about the city, and notwithstanding his advanced age had the appearance of being a hale old man. The deceased lived during the reigns of five English monarchs, and was frequently conversing on events which took place during the first few years of the reign of George III., of which he had a perfect recollection.

COUPTAINS AT SEA.—The *Voyageur* de la Mer, the American yacht for which the Viceroy paid so dearly, as is the case with everything he gets, arrived here on Sunday last, and was found to be in a very bad way. It had been altered, His highness, who had passed the night aloft, immediately went on board, and she, of course, had free pratique, notwithstanding the number of deaths (about thirty) on board. The captain still retained the name of the vessel, and the crew still held their "flat," that has lain as long in the arsenal here, which has also been sent to Liverpool to be improved, after sundry mishaps, managed at last to reach the coast. The crew were ordered to be landed, and the Arab crew (about 500) were transferred to the *Voyageur* de la Mer to bring her out; but after this vessel left, Palmouth, to which place she had to put back, disease broke out, and the crew were ordered to be landed. The dead lights could not be closed to keep out the water, and the poor fellows rolled about amongst all sorts of filth, the stench from which was abominable. On arrival at Gibraltar, the English captain, who was sent to see her, found the state of the vessel becoming known, he was obliged to leave with her, and at Malta he died. Some of the engineers were left in hospital. The vessel, I learn also, now sails out to sea with his steamers, including the above-mentioned vessel (which will, no doubt, be his hobby for a time), probably to escape being bored, as usual, with the gratulations of the natives, and the *Beni* of the Ramadan.

THE LATEST correspondence of the *Daily News*.

AT DELRE WARE PENNSAOLA.—The fact of a duel at Port Delre, Fla., between St. Clair Morgan, of Charleston, S. C., and a young man, named Morgan, late a midshipman in the U. S. Navy, was noticed. The *Mobile Tribune* says:—“It seems that on the night of the duel the young men, with a number of comrades, were off in a boat on a reconnaissance of the coast. St. Clair Morgan, full of reckless daring, proposed that they should all follow him to the shore, and that they should all do whatever they could; but Storrs objected, saying that it would expose them to almost certain capture, and the young man, named Morgan, was so much alarmed by him. St. Clair Morgan, hot tempered and impatient, approached Storrs with timidity. A few words passed between them, and the boat put back to the main anchorage. When they disembarked Storrs took to Morgan and said that he had been shot. St. Clair Morgan, as they held rifles, and the moon was shining brightly, he proved it. Morgan responded to this proposition with alacrity. Twenty steps were piced off, and the first fire Morgan felt dangerously wounded, the second shot he felt in the right hip, having entered his right groin and ranged through his out. On the third night of the thigh. An unfortunate affair, indeed, between two brave young men.”—*New York paper.*

THE CREST.—The following is a curious illustration of the Crest of the house of second nature in a person. An old woman in a lowly condition of mind, who has been a beggar almost from infancy, was called upon on Friday last by one of the emperators, to, handing her a schedule, said:—“See, my daughter, from whom comes the Queen from?” “From the Queen,” said the poor creature. “What! from the Queen?” “From the Queen, my lord, with a poor people like me.” “She wants to know your name and surname, your age, where you were born, and, in short, all about you, by Monday morning,” said she. “I surely,” says she, “the good Queen must have asked me that long ago.” “Next morning, she was at the emperor’s door,” says she. “Well, sir, I am come that you may answer her letter to the Queen for me, I could trust it to no one else.” “It would be too good for me,” says she. “I would be too good for me, I want to lose no time in answering it; better a little before than a man too late. You tell the Queen from me that I was born at Greenock; that I am a soldier’s daughter; and that I am a poor creature, and was also a soldier; I tell her, so, that if she is disposed to be merciful, she will be the only favour I want is that she should see me in preference to go about begging through the country where I like. Tell her, moreover, that if she grants my request, the Lord will reward her. Let her send me up to yourself as soon as she can.”—*Scotch paper.*

During a friendly wrestling match, at Birmingham, between Robert White and William Webb, the

ST. LEONARD'S, NORTH SHORE.

Handsome stone-built Cottage in Berry-street, beautifully situated, overlooking Neutral Bay and the Harbour; a few minutes' walk from the Steam Ferry.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions from Mr. THOMAS MUGGRAVE, to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on MONDAY, 24th JUNE, at 11 o'clock.

A recently-erected stone-built cottage residence, with side road, containing spacious verandah 17 feet wide on two sides, hall, 4 rooms, attic, and store-room, occupying a block of land fronting Berry-street, containing an area of half an acre, being Lot 6 of Section 6 of the Berry-street Estate.

TOWN OF ST. LEONARD'S, NORTH SHORE.
This is a superior and very desirable suburban freehold, situated on the heights of St. Leonard's, a very short distance from the ferry.

The house was built by the present proprietor for his own residence, and no expense has been spared in completing it in a first-class manner; the rooms airy and remarkably well finished, the two principal ones being fitted with marble mantelpieces, corniced ceilings, &c. The site is elevated, and commands beautiful extensive views of Sydney, the harbour, and surrounding scenery.

There is a never-failing supply of water from a spring at the foot of the hill.

Terms in search of a delightful situation, the above property is invited to inspect the above prior to the day of sale. Cards to view can be obtained at the Rooms.

TITLE—Grant from the Crown to the present proprietor.

TERMS at sale.

By order of the Trustees of the Will of the late Mr. Patrick Tighe.

GEORGE and WELLS STREETS.
Corner Block of property, containing of Grocer's Shop and Dwelling-house, formerly the Welcome Inn, and a Cottage on the adjoining allotment of land.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on MONDAY, 24th JUNE, at 11 o'clock.

The following properties, situate at the corner of GEORGE and WELLS STREETS, REDFERN:
LOT 1—SHOP and DWELLING-HOUSE, formerly the Welcome Inn, containing shop and fixtures, five rooms, kitchen and servant's room, yard, with gateway entrance from Wells-street; large shed, well of water, &c., at the rear. The whole occupying an allotment of land having a frontage of about 25 feet to George-street, and about 65 feet frontage to Wells-street.

LOT 2—A cottage, containing four rooms, adjoining, with yard, right to well of water, &c., at the rear, situate on an allotment of land having about 25 feet frontage to Wells-street, by a depth of about 100 feet.

This valuable freehold property will be sold in one lot, or subdivided as above. It is in one of the best positions in Redfern, which has been lately greatly improved by the municipality, and a property that will always command tenants and yield a good return as an investment.

Plan on view at the Rooms.

BENT-STALL.
BRICK-BUILT DWELLING-HOUSE, and Allotment of Land, No. 29, BENT-STREET, opposite the Australian Library.

POSITIVE SALE.
BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on MONDAY, 24th JUNE, at 11 o'clock.

All that piece or land, being portion of Lot 4 section 42 of the Hundred of Berrima, containing 42 acres, 2 roods, 11 inches to BENT-STREET, on which is erected that two-story dwelling-house, No. 29, Bent-street, built of brick, containing about 21 feet frontage to Bent-street, and about 100 feet frontage to Wells-street, with yard, &c., at the rear.

This is a capital freehold, situate in an elevated and healthy position in the city. The sale is worthy of the attention of all seeking a good paying investment, yielding a certain return for capital.

ASHFIELD RAILWAY STATION.

LARGE PRODUCTIVE ORCHARD.
situated in the Hundred of Berrima, containing about 100 acres, and having extensive frontage to the Liverpool Road, known as the property of Mr. Peter Rawlin.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions from Mr. Peter Rawlin to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on MONDAY, 24th JUNE, at 11 o'clock.

His well-known property, situate at the RAILWAY BRIDGE, ASHFIELD, containing about seven acres, having nearly 500 feet frontage to the Liverpool Road, and about 100 feet frontage to the Ashfield Railway Station.

The land is subdivided into an ORCHARD and VINEYARD, containing about FOUR ACRES, planted with upwards of FIVE HUNDRED FULL BEARING FRUIT TREES of every variety, and 1000 GRAPE VINES; also, 200 young trees ready for removing, and strawberry beds, and a collection of choice plants and shrubs. The residue of the land, ABOUT THREE ACRES, is a grass paddock, and was formerly in cultivation.

With the exception of the fencing, the only other improvement is a hut and an unimproved cottage.

This is a celebrated property, and is known to be one of the most productive orchards in the colony, a clear income of £1500 per annum being without difficulty realised from the fruit. The orchard is fenced, and has always been kept in capital order, and a creek of water passes through the property.

The improved land is well worthy of notice as a first-class site for a suburban villa, the situation being elevated, and commanding beautiful views, extending even to the sea.

Plans on view at the Rooms, where also a list of the but trees may be inspected.

THE PELICAN HOTEL, SOUTH HEAD ROAD.
On the south side, at the corner of Edward-street, nearly opposite Riley-street.

CAPITAL CITY INVESTMENT.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on MONDAY, the 1st JULY, at 11 o'clock.

All that valuable corner piece of land, having about the following frontages—214 FEET to EDWARD-STREET, on which is erected those well-known extensive business premises, THE PELICAN HOTEL, substantially erected of brick on stone foundations, and painted outside, containing bar, lobby, and private bar, large public or drawing-room, and two bedrooms on the first floor, and cellar on the basement, yard, with shed, &c., at the rear.

This valuable city property is in full trade, doing the best business in that great thoroughfare, the South Head Road. The premises are at present occupied by Mr. Derracott, and are faithfully built, in capital position on the right side of the street will always command a full rental and constant tenants, rendering the property a paying and most eligible city investment.

THURSDAY, 20th JUNE.
Best English-made Saddlery.

CHATTO and HUGHES have received instructions from the importers to sell by auction, at the Treasury Auction Rooms, THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock.

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